

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application for the reasons set forth herein.

Nonstatutory Double Patenting

Claims 37, 38, and 54-73 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-59 of U.S. Patent No. 6,959,183 (the “’183 Patent”). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of the present Application and the claims of the ’183 Patent are patently distinct, differing in both scope and meaning.

However, in order to more clearly show that the instant invention is non-obvious and distinct over the ’183 Patent, Applicant has amended independent Claims 37, 38, 54, and 64. In these foregoing amendments, Applicant has more clearly and distinctly defined the terms in Claims 37, 38, 54, and 64. Applicant further submits that each of the dependent claims (Claims 55-63 and 65-73) is non-obvious over the ’183 Patent, at least by virtue of each Claim’s ultimate dependency from the patently distinct base Claims 37, 38, 54, and 64.

Conclusion

Wherefore, Applicant respectfully believes all outstanding grounds raised by the Examiner have been addressed, and thus respectfully submits the present case is in condition for allowance, early notification of which is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

REED SMITH-LLP

Date: July 31, 2006


Thomas J. McWilliams

Reg. No. 44,930

Edward F. Behm Jr.

Reg. No. 52,606

REED SMITH LLP

1650 Market Street

2500 One Liberty Place

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Phone 215.851.8100

Fax 215.851.1420

Attorneys for Applicant